

JANUARY

1976

AT THE

CALIFORNIA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

JANUARY MEETINGS

Dates & Times: Matinee, 2:30 p.m., Wednesday, January 14

Evenings, 8:00 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday, January 14-15

Place: May Treat Morrison Auditorium

Speaker: Robert L. Fleming, Sr.

Subject: "NEPAL — MY SHANGRI-LA"

"Forty years in the Himalayas is much too short a time to learn all one desires," comments Dr. Fleming. "There you'll find higher mountains and deeper valleys than other places of the world. The terrain, from 300 to 29,000 feet gives rise to an enormous variety of plant and animal life. The wet, warm and cool seasons present an ever-fascinating and varied panorama of interests. Since 1950, Nepal has been discovered anew by many foreigners including anthropologists, geologists, educators, Peace Corpsmen, Ambassadors, photographers — an endless stream of people with varied interests and approaches, all dedicated in their commendable enthusiasm. My advice is "Go see Nepal for yourself!"

Dr. Fleming, a native of Michigan, was assigned to the Himalayan mountains, Woodstock School, Mussoorie, U. P., India from 1928 to 1953 and has resided in Kathmandu since then. He has contributed 4000 bird specimens to the Field Museum of which he is a Field Associate. His "Birds of Nepal (With References to Kashmir and Sikkim)" is illustrated with 150 colored plates and was published by the Vakil Press, Bombay.

Three presentations as usual and your membership card admits you through the main entrance, Cowell Hall. At the matinee performance you may be asked to present it once again at the auditorium entrance.

ADVANCE NOTICE OF MONTHLY ACADEMY MEETINGS

February 11-12, March 10-11, April 14-15

MORRISON PLANETARIUM

"THE CHRISTMAS STAR" continues through January 4. Beginning January 9 and playing through March 21:

"SHOW AND TELL"—a "behind the scenes" look at how a planetarium creates its particular magic. Performances daily at two with two evening shows, Wednesday and Thursday, at eight. Extra matinees on weekends. Admission: Adults, \$1.50. Those 17 and under, 50c.

LASERIUM

Now over a year old, this highly successful laser light concert continues to delight audiences on weekends. Performances on Fridays at 7:30, 9:00 and 10:30; Saturdays at 4:45, 7:30, 9:00 and 10:30; Sundays at 4:45, 7:30 and 9:00. Admission is \$2.50 for all 4:45 performances and \$2.75 for all others. Tickets are available through all Bay Area Seating Service outlets. Remaining tickets go on sale at the planetarium box-office one-half hour before show time. Telephone TELETIX for further information. Members are reminded that this is *not* a planetarium show *nor* are your membership tickets or passes usable for this attraction.

SPECIAL EXHIBITS

"TIDELINES", color photographs by prize-winning San Franciscan, Ernest Braun. In Hohfeld Gallery.

"THE GENIUS OF BENIAMINO BUFANO", a one-man retrospective continues in Lovell White Hall.

"MAKONDE", elaborate wood carvings, the work of Bantu Africans, and "CETACEA" (devoted to marine mammals) continue in Cowell Hall.

SPECIAL EVENT

As of this writing, tickets are still available for "THE SERENGETI LION", an evening of film and commentary with Dr. George Schaller scheduled for **one time only** on Thursday

evening, January 8 from 8:00-9:30 p.m. (please see December 1975 NEWSLETTER for fuller details). All tickets are priced at \$4.00. This unusual event is co-sponsored by the Academy and the L. S. B. Leakey Foundation.

TRAVEL AND EDUCATION NOTES

WEST COAST OF BAJA CALIFORNIA —
February 14-20, 1976

The last spaces are filling fast on this special 7-day boat excursion in search of gray whales and other natural history of the ocean, islands and west coast of Baja California. The comfortable *Qualifier 105* has been chartered for 30 participants, and the trip will be led by Dr. Welton Lee of our Invertebrate Zoology Department, and other scientists. Cost: \$530 from San Diego. Contact Nature Expeditions International, P.O. Box 1173, Los Altos, California 94022, or telephone (415) 941-2910 for details.

And to prepare our members for their Baja California trip, the Academy and NEI are co-sponsoring a one-day symposium on the area to be visited, concentrating on the biology of the marine mammals that will be encountered and other wildlife. It is free for trip participants, and \$10 for each armchair traveler. The symposium will be held Saturday, January 24, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Morrison Auditorium. Checks, made out to the California Academy of Sciences, should be sent to the Education Office of the Academy.

GUATEMALA — February 14-March 3, 1976

A few spaces remain for this 19-day comprehensive tour of Guatemala to be led by Dr. and Mrs. Robert T. Orr. Contact Gulliver's Travel, 3597 Sacramento Street, San Francisco 94118, or telephone (415) 346-4400 for an itinerary.

WHALE WATCHING BOAT TRIP —
Sunday, January 25, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Through the cooperation of the Oceanic Society, the California Academy of Sciences is offering a one-day whale watching boat trip from San Francisco Bay to Pt. Reyes and return, aboard a 125-foot ex-Coast Guard Cutter on Sunday, January 25, 8 a.m. to about 5 p.m. The sixty spaces available will go quickly, therefore, if interested, mail \$20 per person as soon

as possible to the Travel Office of the Academy. Enclosure of a self-addressed envelope will speed our response to you with full details. Please, no telephone reservations can be taken.

Those prone to seasickness should realize that at that time of year a boat trip may well be rough, cold and wet.

AMES RESEARCH CENTER TOUR —

Wednesday, February 4, 5:30 to 10:00 p.m.

Is there life elsewhere in our solar system or in the universe? This question will be explored on our special two-hour visit to the Ames Research Center at NASA in Moffett Field. Dr. Harold Klein, Director of the Viking (Mars lander) biology team, and other scientists, will take us on a behind-the-scenes tour and talk to us about their work meant to answer those exciting questions about possible neighbors in space. In particular, we will see the experiments that will be carried out on Mars next July by Viking. The chartered bus will leave the Academy at 5:30 and arrive back about 10:00 p.m. Southern peninsula residents may wish to drive their own cars; if so, please indicate this when making reservations. \$5 per person, by mail only, to the Education Office of the Academy.

BODEGA BAY AND BIRDS —

Saturday, February 21, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Winter is an excellent time to look for migratory and overwintering waterfowl. On this trip to Bodega Bay we should spot ruddy ducks, mergansers, loons, and many other kinds of Bay visitors. Dr. Laurence Binford of our Ornithology and Mammalogy Department will provide expert guidance on this chartered bus trip. Everyone should bring their own lunch, binoculars or spotting 'scope and rainwear. Limited to one bus, \$15 per person. Reservations by mail only to the Education Office, California Academy of Sciences.

Classes for adults

scheduled to start in February are: "Gems and Gemstones", "Scientific Illustration", "Aquarium Care", "Bodega Bay and Birds" and "Astronomy for Fun". Call the Education Office for details if you did not receive your announcement.

Due to the limitations of space,
we are printing only a partial list of new mem-
bers of the Academy. More will appear in the
February NEWSLETTER.

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